

Minutes
Parks and Recreation Board
February 25, 1992

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on February 25, 1992 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parks and Recreation Department Board Room, 200 South Lamar. Board Members present: Charlie Gandy, James Crump, Beverly Griffith, Neil Iscoe, Eliza Mays, Ron Cartlidge, Albert Black and Phil Friday. Staff present: Manuel A. Mollinedo, Stuart Strong, Peter Marsh, Randy Russell, Robert Sopronyi, Sarah Macias, Jim Halbbrook and Donna Bohls.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Beverly Griffith, Chair. The Minutes for the regular meetings of January 28 and February 10, 1992 were approved.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Robert L. Thomas addressed the Board regarding the management of Rosewood Recreation Center.

Dorothy Richter addressed the Board regarding erosion on the banks of Barton Creek and the runoff from the Zilker Park Playscape.

Stephen Rodi addressed the Board regarding the batting cages proposed for Bartholomew Park.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Travis County Community Service Restitution and SCAMP Programs, Jose Villarreal & Sarah Macias

Mr. Villarreal, Travis County Probation Department, addressed the Board about the role that community service restitution workers have with the Parks and Recreation Department. He encouraged the department to work with Travis County to expand the opportunities for using CSR workers to accomplish department goals.

Video of Flood Damage to Lake Austin by James Crump

Mr. Crump presented 15-20 minutes of video of the December, 1991 flood damage along Lake Austin. Mr. Crump was accompanied by Officer Dean Ivy of the Park Police on a tour around the lake. Board Members expressed thanks to Mr. Crump for his time and the very informative video.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Mrs. Griffith reported that the department had been able to exercise the Nature Conservancy's option on the 151 Franklin Tract in the Upper Bull Creek Greenbelt. The purchase will be completed within the next 60 days.

Hayden Brooks and his wife have just become new parents. Due to his increased responsibilities at home, Mr. Brooks is resigning from the Parks

and Recreation Board. Mrs. Griffith indicated that he would still be interested in assisting with Park related issues in any way that he could.

Mrs. Griffith read a letter from Roberta Crenshaw, Member Emeritus of the Parks and Recreation Board. Mrs. Crenshaw encouraged the Board to push forward with the acquisition of land for Town Lake park.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mollinedo reported on the flood damage sustained by Austin parkland. Due to the high level of water in Barton Creek and Town Lake, the complete scope of damage to Barton Springs pool has yet to be assessed. Until the full damage is assessed, no date can be set for the spring opening. Deep Eddy pool is currently open for Polar Bear swimmers.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Approve resolution recommending authorizing Director of Parks and Recreation Department to implement emergency procedures on Lake Austin and Town Lake

This item was referred to the Navigation Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Hearing on Suggestions for Donated Improvements to Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Jack Martin, a local attorney, requested installation of an exercise area under the MoPac bridge near the trail similar to an area in Houston's Memorial Park.

Larry Akers, President of Friends of the Parks, requested that the Parks Board approve a list of projects on which volunteer groups will be authorized to proceed. He expressed appreciation to the Board for holding the public hearing before any projects were started.

Louise Hasty requested that the Lou Neff Gazebo be rehabilitated and the landscaping around it repaired. She also expressed an interest in repairing/replacing the pedestrian bridges.

Diane Weidner requested that donations be focused on needed trail maintenance and repair and the repair/replacement of the pedestrian bridges.

Claudia Siegel asked that the trail area be kept as natural as possible. She would like to see additional erosion control, trail maintenance and repair/replacement of pedestrian bridges.

Ed Dato emphasized the need for fiscal responsibility. He wanted to have natural projects and amenities.

Carol Fox requested replacement/repair of the pedestrian bridges, trail maintenance and materials.

DRAFT

Daniel Traverso, Old West Austin Neighborhood Association, requested that trail maintenance and repair of the flood damage be made a priority. He emphasized maintenance over new "bells and whistles."

Bill Forest, President of the Capital Area Youth Soccer Association, requested that a pump station be installed to provide irrigation from Town Lake.

Lyle Clugg, Motorola/Austin Marathon Coordinator, indicated that trail maintenance and erosion control would be preferred projects. He also volunteered to help recruit volunteer labor to complete the projects.

Mark Moore thanked the Board for reconsidering the lighting project and asked that future projects not include commercial build-up.

Gail Armstrong, a bicycle enthusiast, asked that the Board reconsider having a separate bike trail. He wanted bikes and joggers to continue to use the granite gravel trail with no asphalt track along Town Lake.

George Cofer requested trail maintenance and installation of additional water fountains.

Cecilia Games asked that the Board not rush into making any improvements but would consider trail maintenance and restrooms as appropriate.

Robert Singleton did not feel that improvements were necessary but if they were going to be done for the Board to consider water fountains, trash cans, improved maintenance and security.

Lawrence Wesson addressed the need for public input before improvements are considered.

Board Members decided to schedule a presentation on the separate hike and bike trail issue for March 24th and a public hearing for April 28th.

James Crump moved and Albert Black seconded a motion to close the public hearing. The motion passed.

Approve Recommendation to Council regarding improvements to be donated to the Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail

After Board discussion James Crump moved and Neil Iscoe seconded the following motion:

Approve recommendation to Council that the major priorities for improvements to be donated to the Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail be trail repairs (including crushed granite mix), erosion control, and repairs or replacement of pedestrian bridges.

The motion passed unanimously.

Approve resolution regarding closing of Riverside Drive

This item was tabled.

DRAFT

Approve recommendation to Council regarding Fern Bluff MUD, Third Consent Agreement Amendment

James Crump moved and Ron Cartlidge seconded a motion to recommend to Council the approval of the Third Consent Agreement Amendment for Fern Bluff MUD. This amendment will extend by 18 months its obligations to complete construction of park facilities. The motion passed.

Approve request from Delwood Optimists to build two batting cages on Bartholomew Park

Ron Cartlidge moved and Albert Black seconded a motion to allow the Delwood Optimists to construct two batting cages at Bartholomew Park. The Optimists club will pay for and maintain the batting cages. They are also to plant shrubbery around the batting cage to offset the visual and noise impact to the neighborhood. The motion passed.

Approve Recommendation to Council regarding proposed Cemetery Fee Increases

James Crump moved and Phil Friday seconded a motion regarding the proposed cemetery fee increases. The motion is as follows:

It is the position of the Parks and Recreation Board that cemeteries should not be part of Parks and Recreation Department. Expenses related to the operation and maintenance of cemeteries should not be a drain on the Parks and Recreation Department budget. Therefore, the Parks and Recreation Board supports raising the fees to help offset expenses to the perpetual care fund.

The motion passed.

Review and Approve revised Concession Policy and RFPs for Concessions

This item was tabled for 30 days.

Review and Approve 4 Requests for Boat Dock Construction

A. Construction of covered two-slip boat dock at 4202 Waters Edge Cove

This is a request from Signor Enterprises, on behalf of Ron Gordy.

Ron Cartlidge, Chair of the Navigation Committee, reported that the Committee recommends approval of a variance allowing the dock to be constructed 23 feet 6 inches wide, exceeding 20% of the width of the shoreline. The Committee refuses the request to construct the bulkhead of treated timber. The Land Development Code requires that retaining walls be constructed of stone, concrete, steel, aluminum or pressure treated timber. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Change deck into Boat Dock at 2201 Island Wood Road

This is a request from Rusty Signor.

Ron Cartlidge, Chair of the Navigation Committee, reported that the Committee recommended approval in compliance with Site Plan SP-90-0069DS.

DRAFT

The motion passed unanimously.

C. Construction of two-slip Boat Dock at 4301 Michaels Cove

This is a request from Rusty Signor.

Ron Cartlidge, Chair of the Navigation Committee, reported that the Committee recommended approval in accordance with Site Plan SP-92-0006DS, subject to the following conditions:

- The boat dock should be located at least 35' from the adjacent right-of-way line to comply with the building set back requirements.
- The boat dock should be positioned immediately adjacent to the rock bluff and no part should extend more than 30' from the shoreline.
- No existing trees should be removed and should be protected during construction.

The motion passed unanimously.

D. Construction of two-slip boat dock at 3821 Westlake Drive

This is a request from Signor Enterprises on behalf of Dr. Chuck Denham.

Ron Cartlidge, Chair of the Navigation Committee, reported that the Committee recommended approval in accordance with Site Plan SP-92-0007DS, subject to the following conditions:

- The existing wooden boat dock located on Lot 99 be demolished and removed before construction of the new dock is started.
- Development of the shoreline be restricted to Lot 99.
- Maximum width of shoreline development is limited to 39 feet.
- Only two boat slips be constructed in accordance with Section 13-2-794 of the Land Development Code.
- The decorative lighting proposed for the deck be low wattage with diffused white glass.

The motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1992 Bond Election Proposal

Board Members scheduled discussion of this proposal for March 9 at noon.

There being no further business, the meeting stood adjourned.